

Samuel Fulton to Andrew Jackson, September 20, 1814, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

COLONEL SAMUEL FULTON TO JACKSON.¹

¹ Samuel Fulton's adventurous career, up to 1797, is recounted by Professor Turner in *Am. Hist. Rev.*, X. 270; see also *Am. St. Papers, Indian Affairs*, I. 463, and *Am. Hist. Assoc. Annual Report* for 1896, *passim*, in which are several of his letters. After three or four years' residence in Pensacola and West Florida under the protection of McGillivray he entered heartily in 1794 into the projects of Genet and George Rogers Clark against Louisiana, was made a lieutenant-colonel in the French army in 1795, went to France in 1796 and continued his designs against Louisiana; but in 1802 was resident in New Orleans (*ibid.*, p. 1101), and in 1812 had for some time possessed land in Louisiana; *Am. St. Papers, Public Lands*, II. 348–349.

New Orleans, September 20, 1814.

Dear General, Having Lived near Eleven years in this Country, and having been employ'd in diffrent Capacities, have had it in my power to become acquainted, with the Local Situation of the Country, and the Character of its Inhabitants, there are many Good and Brave people in it, but the total want of Confidence by all Classes of people, in the Chief Magistrate of the State, puts it in a truely alarming Situation. I Cannot Sit a Silent Spectator, to it, at a moment Like this when the Energys of Evry Citizen ought to be roused for the Defence of the Common Cause.

Your presence here General, might have a good affect or Some active Energetic officier, with your full power to put the State under Marshall Law, this is not only my oppinion, but

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that of a Large portion of the principal Citizens of the State, to Save it from Some fatal Disaster. If General my feeble Talents might be usefull to you, near your person, or in any Capacity in this quarter, I am ready and willing to receive your orders. If Eight years Service as a Lieutenant Colonel of Cavalry, in the French Service, four years Service, as Commandant. of the Militia of west Florida, under the Spanish Gover'nt, and three years as Colonel of Militia in the State of Louisiana, be any recommendation, to you, this is what I have to offer, for the guarantee of any office which might be Confided to me,